



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

DMC Subcommittee Meeting

Minutes of Electronic Meeting

Origination Site: Lucas State Office Building
321 East 12th Street, Room 319
Des Moines, Iowa

December 15, 2015

Present: Wayne Ford, Chair; Kim Cheeks; LaTasha DeLoach; Karyn Finn; Bob Greenlee; Sandy Lint; Stephan Pearson; Sanjita Pradhan; John Spinks; Miguel Trevino; John Wauters

Others: Vivian Hayashi

Staff: Dave Kuker; Scott Musel; Julie Rinker; Sarah Johnson; Laura Roeder-Grubb

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Agenda - Additions/Amendments**

Wayne Ford welcomed those in attendance at 10:05 a.m. There were no changes to the agenda. A quorum was present.

- **Approval of 9-16-15 Meeting Summary**

John Wauters moved to approve the summary from the September meeting, seconded by Stephan Pearson. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Racial Impact Statements**

Sarah Johnson, CJJP, summarized her work with minority impact statements which analyze the effects of proposed criminal legislation on Iowa's adult minority populations. Proposed crimes are reviewed for racial composition and effects on the criminal justice system including the number of adult admissions to prison, community-based corrections, and increases/reductions in costs to the state. The analyses can include a forecast period of five years or more. She credited the availability of data in the Justice Data Warehouse (JDW).

Wauters asked if legislators consider other alternatives when proposed bills negatively impact minorities. Johnson replied that many times the legislation is revised.

John Spinks asked about crack vs. powder cocaine. Johnson responded that an impact analysis was conducted several years ago on overall discrepancies. Most recently the Department of Corrections did an analysis on amounts and race.

Discussion included whether an analysis could be conducted on juveniles tried as adults or the number of admissions to the State Training School, group care, etc. Johnson replied yes.

Ford noted that the original racial impact legislation was aimed at adults. However, he would like to expand to other areas including juveniles, economic development, and education.

- **Minority Youth Engagement**

Kuker reported on meetings held in October regarding ways to engage minority youth in DMC activities and hear their concerns on system issues. Several youth groups/chapters were identified:

- Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP)—youth from across Iowa, including the State Training School
- State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC)
- NAACP
- Iowa Youth Congress (IYC)
- Dreamers Iowa
- Advocates for Immigrants and Refugees Rights (AIRR)

Ford and Kuker will develop a strategy for early 2016 to visit various communities and groups. Youth meetings will be arranged outside of school hours.

- **DMC Reduction Plan 2015/16**

- **Local DMC Collaboration and Plan Development Effort**

Kuker would like this topic to be on every agenda. Over the last several months, meetings have been held with State Court Administration and community leaders (judges, juvenile court personnel, law enforcement, local advocates/activists, public defenders, private providers, and school administration). Local groups are looking at ways to reduce DMC through police diversion and alternatives to detention. As part of the CASP (Community and Strategic Plan) project, a report is due to the Chief Justice in 2016. A format for larger metro communities to report progress will be developed.

Spinks referenced his involvement in the CASP project. He recently was involved with two families reaping benefits and was pleased that efforts are working as intended.

- **Discussions With State Leaders**

Kuker reported that meetings continue with state agency leaders. Iowa State University Extension has included DMC in its youth efforts.

- **Ongoing Provision of Data**

Once data are available, DMC-related reports will be updated for 2015 and used to drive DMC efforts.

- **State-Level DMC Summit**

Kuker announced plans for a DMC-related summit in June, 2016. Planning will start in January and involve DMC members and information gained from local youth meetings. Technical assistance will be provided. Teams from local jurisdictions will attend and network to address DMC. An estimated budget for the one or two-day event is \$20-25,000. He asked for volunteers to work with juvenile court services.

LaTasha DeLoach suggested communities come prepared with plans in place and share information. Kuker concurred. Local plans must be completed by August, 2016, for inclusion in the report to the Chief Justice. He suggested developing a standard report format for comparison across sites.

Kim Cheeks, John Spinks, and Wayne Ford agreed to develop survey questions for youth in attendance at upcoming MLK events and youth summits. Questions would focus on the juvenile justice system and delinquency, including those with/without direct involvement. Other suggestions included electronic or web-based surveys. Questions will be shared with Kuker for review.

[Trevino joined call at 11:25]

- **Implementation of Electronic Version of DST**

No discussion.

- **Legislative Priorities**

- **Governor's Working Group on Justice Policy Reform**
- **JJAC – P&P Sub – Record Confidentiality**

Kuker reviewed the four recommendations from the Governor's Working Group (GWG)-- confidentiality of juvenile records, drug/mental health courts, increasing diversity of jury pools, and prison/jail phone costs.

A letter regarding public access to juvenile court records was sent to the GWG on behalf of the JJAC. Kuker noted how access to this information negatively affects a youth's future employment, higher education, finances, and military enlistment. He urged members to share the letter with others including legislators and advocacy groups. He will continue to provide updates.

- **3rd Grade Retention**

No report

- **Local DMC Updates**

Black Hawk – Greenlee reported that efforts continue in Waterloo. The city recently elected its first African-American mayor.

Iowa City – DeLoach reported that pre-arrest diversion for first offense of theft 5th will begin in January.

Davenport – Miguel Trevino reported on a diversion program for simple misdemeanors. Some individuals have attended the Georgetown training.

Sioux City – Stephan Pearson reported that Siouxland Human Investment Partnership (SHIP) was awarded a million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide reintegration employment training and educational guidance for youth aged 14-24.

In collaboration with the school system, the Junior Air Force ROTC will work with up to 180 freshmen and sophomore students. The purpose is to develop students dedicated to serving their community and national.

- **OJJDP DMC Highlight**

No report.

- **Future Meetings**

- 2/17/16 Webinar (GoTo Meeting)
- 5/18/16 DMC Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning